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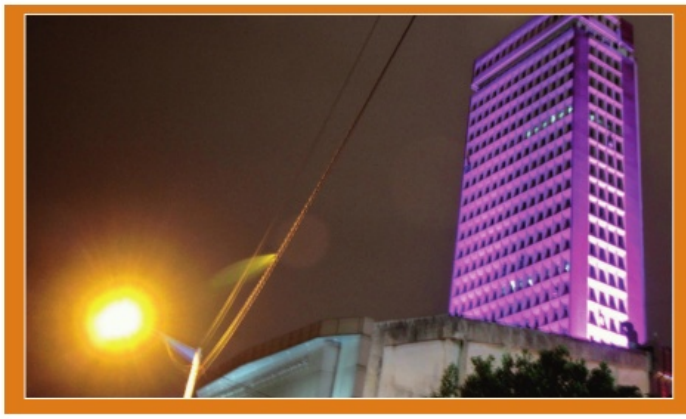
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 18 | Humidity 40% Mainly Clear sky Sensex 74,602 | Nifty 22,547 | Gold 86,480 | Silver 95,520 | Dollar 87.20 | Euro 91.50 | GBP 110.43



TALL TASK

BBMP revises rent for shops in Public Utility Building to put end to its 19-year-long dispute with tenants

PAGE 4

MERCURY RISING

Though in city temperatures hover around 33 degree C, Met Dept has already issued heatwave alert in parts of state

PAGE 5

After all efforts to trace kin fail, police go beyond call of duty to ensure that unidentified, unclaimed deceased are given proper farewell

RITES BEYOND DUTY

1,791 unidentified corpses in K'taka as per data from 2021

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For the Karnataka police, duty extends beyond maintaining law and order, it also means giving dignity to the forgotten. When unclaimed bodies are found, officers go beyond their official responsibilities, ensuring that those who have no family or anyone to mourn them receive a proper farewell. Despite thorough investigations to locate their heirs, many of these individuals remain unclaimed, often orphans, destitute, or abandoned due to illness or financial struggles. In such moments, the police step in, not just as law enforcers, but as the only ones left to offer them their final rites with respect and dignity.

One such incident occurred under the Madanayakanahalli police station limits, where a police constable named Mahesh, took it upon himself to perform the final rites of an unclaimed body. After exhausting all efforts to locate the deceased's family, Mahesh, along with an ambulance team and municipal workers, ensured the individual was given a proper burial.

"We tried our best to locate the family or any relatives to hand over the body, but despite our efforts,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

"We do our best, but in some cases even when the families are aware, they choose not to come to claim the bodies

— Mahesh, constable

Ain't that a leech?

Fraudsters pose as blood donors, call family members in time of emergency to make money off them

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Fraudsters are expanding their tentacles in the city. And they are not even sparing patients who badly need blood. The fraudsters have been exploiting the near and dear ones of the patients under the guise of being blood donors.

Their modus operandi is to find out the contact numbers of those who put up appeal for blood donors on social media. The fraudsters promptly contact the people looking for donors as their near and dear ones, who are admitted in a hospital to undergo surgery, need blood. The fraudsters fix the date and time to donate blood. Later they call the beneficiary to pay some amount through UPI towards conveyance or to repair their vehicle. As soon as they receive the money, they switch off their mobile phones.

Expressing concern over fraudsters targeting the relatives of patients during medical emergencies, John Paul, a resident of Ejipura, recalled how a person claiming to be a nursing student of St. John's College of Nursing had tried to him. "My wife was admitted to St. Philomena's Hospital in April 2024. I do not know how

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Musical evening

Windmills is presenting Nayā Day, a trio which offers a fusion of jazz guitar, Indian ragas, tabla rhythms, and electronic textures. The band aims to create a cinematic soundscape, offering an evocative soundtrack for an imagined journey between Germany and India. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: March 1 at 9.30 pm and March 2 at 8 pm**

02 Software Summit

IIM Bangalore's Centre for Software and IT Management (CSITM), in collaboration with the International Software Product Management Association (ISPMA), is hosting the 7th India Software Product Management Summit. The event will be centered on the theme of Software Product Management Excellence at Scale. **Where: IIM Bangalore Campus; When: February 28 and March 1**

03 Have a laugh

Ashish Vidyarthi is coming up with his Stand-Up Comedy Special called 'Sit Down Ashish', which offers a tongue-in-cheek take on his life, from Delhi to the 'city of dreams' - Mumbai, a journey which over the last 30 years has taken him across the country, doing more than 300 films across 11 languages. **Where: Ministry of Comedy, Koramangala; When: March 1, 7 pm**

04 Art exhibition

Gallery G is presenting 'The Masters & The Modern: South Edition', an exhibition celebrating the rich artistic heritage of South India. The show offers a compelling journey through the artistic, cultural, and socio-political transformations that have shaped South Indian art from the early 20th century to the contemporary era. **Where: Gallery G; When: February 26 to March 31**

05 Improv show

The Reluctant Hustlers are organising Fevicol, an improv show that celebrates the magical bonds of friendship that tie us together. The Reluctant Hustlers are a team of improvisers, actors, storytellers and movement artists. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar; When: March 2, 6.30 pm**

New exam resources to enhance results

Education department releases Pariksha Margadarshi, subject-wise guide to help SSLC students, alongside initiatives to improve exam performance

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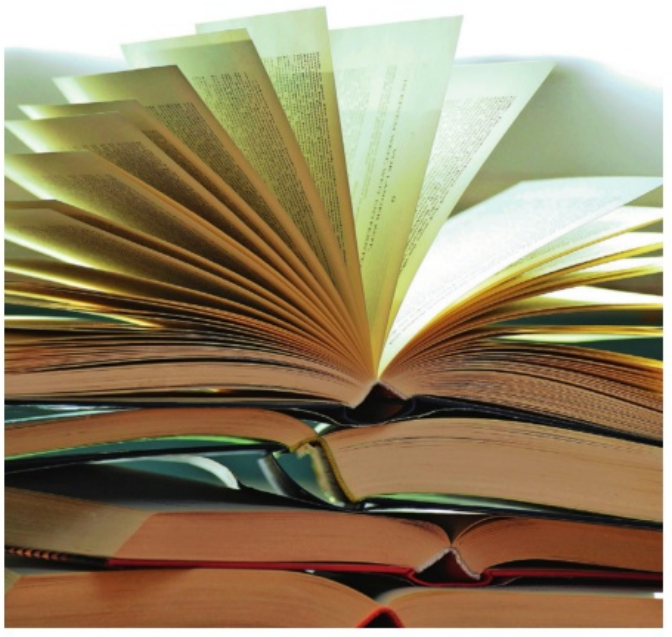
In an effort to boost SSLC examination results, the Department of School Education and Literacy has released a comprehensive guide (Pariksha Margadarshi), aimed at helping students with exam preparation. The guide provides concise answers to key topics across six subjects, with separate versions developed by resource persons from different districts. Each guide, spanning 100-250 pages, is structured chapter-wise, covering frequently asked questions.

Sources said that the Kannada guide includes sections on prose, poetry, vachanas, and supplementary reading, along with grammar topics such as letter writing, verb conjugations, and compound words. Designed in a simple format, it allows students to grasp concepts easily and improve their performance in the SSLC examination.

Targeting better results

The education department has implemented multiple initiatives to boost SSLC results, with Pariksha Margadarshi being a key measure. Director of School Examinations and Evaluation Board, HN Gopalakrishna, stated that practicing with the guide will significantly help students score better.



SSLC exam statistics (2024)

Total registrations:	8,96,447 students
Examination centers:	2,818
Local vigilance squads:	2,818
Mobile inspection teams:	1,662
Question paper distribution routes:	1,117

> **"To enhance learning, the Pariksha Margadarshi guide includes QR codes linked to YouTube videos explaining science experiments** – Official

In 2023, the SSLC pass percentage dropped by 10.49% compared to the previous year, reaching 73.40%, despite the introduction of webcasting for the first time. To address this decline, the minimum passing marks were reduced from 35 to 25, and a 20% grace mark system was introduced. However, with results still falling, the department has undertaken extensive preparations to improve performance this year.

District-level initiatives

Before finalising the exam schedule, the department had already instructed deputy directors in all 34 educational districts to implement innovative programs. Shivamogga District conducted a three-day program, 'Geluvina Hejje', to help students maximise their scores. Additionally, high-performing students were invited to participate in 'Sphurtida Chilume', an initiative aimed at inspiring their peers. Chitradurga District introduced various preparatory activities such as 'Kalika Halagale Abhyasa' and 'Bharavase Namma Chitta Shatakadatta', focusing on strengthening students' confidence and exam readiness.

QR codes for interactive learning

An official said, "To enhance learning, the Pariksha Margadarshi guide includes QR codes linked to YouTube videos explaining science experiments. By scanning the QR codes, students can access visual demonstrations, making it easier to understand complex scientific concepts."

With these measures in place, the official said that the education department is optimistic about achieving better SSLC results this year.

MoA and GCU host Ashwagandha Forum 2025

The Ministry of AYUSH (MoA), in collaboration with Garden City University (GCU), hosted the Ashwagandha Forum 2025, to promote research on the therapeutic benefits of Ashwagandha.

As part of the event, the book "Compendium of Ashwagandha: A Complete Reference Guide" was officially launched by Dr Jeetendra Kumar Vaishya, Research Officer at the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), MoA, and Dr Joseph VG, Chancellor of Garden City University.

Dr Jeetendra Kumar Vaishya commended GCU's efforts in integrating traditional medicinal knowledge with modern scientific research. The event also highlighted GCU's ongoing research on Ashwagandha, supported by a ₹20 lakh research grant, further solidifying its role as a leader in traditional medicine research. **— BMB**

Not guilty: HC quashes suspension of man found sleeping on job

The Karnataka High Court has upheld the "right to sleep" and work-life balance by ruling in favour of a State Transport Corporation constable who was found sleeping during duty hours, as he was forced to work 16-hour double shifts daily for 60 consecutive days.

A constable named Chandrashekhar from the Kalyan Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) faced suspension on July 1, 2024, after a viral video showed him sleeping whilst on duty. Justice M Nagaprasanna nullified the suspension order issued by KKRTC Koppal division's disciplinary authority, in response to Chandrashekhar's petition. The Court observed that whilst KKRTC defended the suspension, they acknowledged compelling the constable to work 16-hour days for 60 consecutive days due to staff shortages.

The Court additionally noted that the corporation's Vigilance Department, which initially recommended the suspension, had reported severe understaffing with only three constables at the depot, suggesting the recruitment of two additional constables for efficient operations.

Citing universal human rights declarations regarding "right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours..." and previous high court rulings, Justice Nagaprasanna determined that KKRTC's suspension order lacked proper justification,

given they had forced the petitioner to work excessive hours without breaks. The Court clarified that whilst sleeping during a single shift would constitute misconduct, the unique circumstances of this case warranted no fault-finding with the petitioner's actions.

The Court referenced India's commitment to International Labour Organisation conventions, which stipulate that working hours should not exceed 48 hours weekly, and 8 hours daily, barring exceptional situations. **— BMB**

From jewellery to mobiles, thieves have eye on it all

Police crack down on multiple theft cases, arresting suspects involved in gold, vehicle, and mobile phone thefts; stolen items worth lakhs of rupees recovered through swift investigations

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A seemingly routine task at a hallmarking centre turned into a high-stakes heist when a trusted worker orchestrated a daring gold theft worth Rs 63 lakh. The Halasuru Gate Police have arrested two individuals in connection with the crime and successfully recovered 727 grams of stolen gold jewellery.

The case came to light when the shop owner filed a complaint on January 18, 2025, reporting the theft. The complainant stated that an employee, who had been working at the centre for six months, stole the locker key from the drawer on January 15, 2025. The accused then opened the locker and stole gold jewellery that was being hallmarked for two jewellers.

Following an investigation, police detained a suspect near Majestic on February 6, 2025. During interrogation, he confessed to the crime and revealed that he had handed over the stolen jewellery to an associate in Bewar, Rajasthan, for sale. Based on this information, police arrested the second accused near Adarsh Vidya Mandir School, Rajasthan, on February 10, 2025.

Further inquiries led to multiple seizures: 30 grams of gold bullion from a testing centre in Bewar (February 17), 10 grams from a jewellery shop in Bhim (February 19), and 213 grams from the residence of one accused in Karnipur (February 20). Additionally, 474 grams of gold bars were recovered from another associate's house in Chunchinaka Colony, Bewar, on February 21.

Both accused have been remanded to judicial custody after being presented before the court on February 20 and February 23, respectively.

B'luru's stealth riders busted

In a crackdown on vehicle theft, Bengaluru police unravelled a well-oiled operation where thieves were stealing two-wheelers and stockpiling them like a hidden showroom for resale. Three men identified as Srinivasa, Venkatesh and Sagara arrested near 8th Mile, led investigators on a trail that uncovered 16 stolen bikes and 76 grams of gold jewellery worth ₹29.08 lakh.

The case began on January 31, 2025, when a resident of Kalastinagar filed a complaint at Bagalagunte Police Station regarding his stolen two-wheeler. The vehicle, parked securely outside his residence on January 21, was found missing the next morning.

Following an investigation, police apprehended three suspects on February 5 near the 8th Mile area. Upon interrogation, the accused admitted to multiple thefts across Bengaluru, revealing that they had hidden nine stolen vehicles near Bonemill Factory on Nagasandra Main Road. These were seized on February 11.

Further questioning led officers to another stash of seven two-wheelers parked in a vacant lot behind Manjunathnagar Metro Station, recovered on February 17. The accused had also handed over the stolen gold jewellery to an associate in Tumkur, who later surrendered the 76 grams of gold at Bagalagunte Police Station.

The trio has been linked to 13 two-wheeler theft cases across Bagalgunte, Kodigehalli, and Thirumalashettihalli police stations.

> **Police busted vehicle theft racket, arresting three men and recovering 16 stolen bikes and 76 grams of gold**

Mobile phone thief caught

A police investigation led to the arrest of a 19-year-old individual involved in a mobile phone theft case, recovering 11 stolen phones and a two-wheeler, valued at ₹4.75 lakh.

The incident came to light after the owner of an electronics shop in Kalyan Nagar filed a complaint with Hennur Police on December 8, 2024. According to the complaint, the shop was securely locked on the night of December 6, but by the morning of December 7, unidentified individuals had broken in through the back door and stolen 14 mobile phones of various brands.

Acting swiftly, the police pursued multiple leads and gathered intelligence from informants. They apprehended a suspect on February 1, near Tin Factory, KR Puram, in possession of a stolen mobile phone and a two-wheeler. Upon interrogation, he confessed to the crime. The accused was identified as Poojary Vannurswamy (19)

Further probing led officers to Udayanagar, where the accused was staying. On February 4, a raid at his residence resulted in the recovery of 10 more stolen mobile phones. The accused was initially remanded in police custody for five days. Accused was presented before the court on February 6.

Elderly woman dies in hit-and-run

A hit-and-run incident claimed the life of an unidentified elderly woman near the BMTC depot at Sumanahalli Circle early this morning.

The victim, believed to be around 60-65 years old, was reportedly a ragpicker, as suggested by the bag found at the scene. The accident occurred around 1:15 am when the woman was crossing the road and was struck by an unidentified vehicle. The driver fled without stopping.

The impact of the collision was fatal, and the woman died on the spot. Upon receiving information, the Kamakshipalya Traffic Police arrived at the location, registered a case, and shifted the body to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem and identification. Police officials are currently reviewing CCTV footage from the area to track down the vehicle and its driver. —BMB

Young man dies in car crash

An accident occurred at Kattihosahalli village in Doddaballapur taluk on Monday night when a car lost control, collided with a divider, and overturned. The incident was captured on a CCTV camera, showing the impact of the crash.

Mohammad Younis (20), who suffered severe injuries, succumbed while undergoing treatment. His companions, Kishore and Yatheesh, sustained injuries, while Chethan and Vishal, who were also in the car, escaped with minor wounds.

The victims, all residents of Vijayapura in Devanahalli, were returning from a friend's wedding in Navalgund, Dharwad when the accident took place. Preliminary investigations suggest that overspeeding may have led to the driver losing control of the vehicle. Police officials have registered a case. —BMB

Murder linked to political rivalry

Four individuals have been detained for questioning in connection with the murder of rowdy-sheeter Hyderali, suspecting a political motive behind the crime.

Hyderali (32), a resident of Anepalya, was on his way home on his friend's bike after attending a party on Saturday night. As they neared the football stadium, a group of assailants ambushed him, ramming his bike with a car to knock him down. Immediately after, eight attackers set upon him with lethal weapons, hacking him to death in over 50 places, including his head, hands, and feet, before fleeing the scene.

Following the registration of a case, the Ashokanagar police launched an investigation and formed two special teams to track down the culprits. In an initial breakthrough, four individuals were taken into custody for interrogation.

Hyderali was known to be associated with Congress leaders and was an active social worker. Police suspect that the murder could be linked to political rivalry. —BMB

Recliners for MLAs to boost budget session attendance

To boost the attendance of MLAs in the Karnataka Assembly during the Budget session, Speaker UT Khader on Tuesday decided to arrange for recliner facilities for the legislators.

Khader, who is initiating proactive steps in the Assembly, is behind the idea.

It has been decided to rent out 15 recliners initially from March 3 to 21 and they will be installed in the lobby of the Vidhana Soudha.

The step is implemented based on the feedback from the senior MLAs and observance of the trend of MLAs not returning to participate in the session once they step out from the House after lunch.

Khader has opined that the sofa-like recliners would enable MLAs to have a siesta and after the short break, they will take part in the session with the remaining period.

It has also been decided to avoid purchasing them as it would be a waste of money as recliners would not be used all the time. Hence, it has been decided to rent them during the session and once the session ends, they will be removed from the premises.

In July 2024, during the Legislative Session, Speaker Khader installed one recliner chair and after the feedback from MLAs who expressed their happiness over the recliner facility, the decision was taken to install more recliners.

Khader also introduced the serving of breakfast, lunch, tea-coffee and snacks, considering practical issues of MLAs during the session.

The Speaker had also started taking attendance of MLAs who came promptly at the beginning of the session, attended all the sessions and appreciated them.

Khader also called out those who came late and did not attend the session.

He had an Artificial Intelligence system to track the attendance of MLAs.

Karnataka Assembly session is all set to witness a high drama, as the Opposition BJP and JD (S) are waiting to target the ruling Congress over the plethora of contentious issues.

CM Siddaramaiah will present the Budget for the financial year 2025-26 on March 7. —IANS

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SUMMER VACATION-2025
(Eng & Kan Med) Admissions Started for
IV&V
Sainik/Navodaya/Kittur/RMS Coaching
Maths, English, Intelligence (IQ) & GK
VI to X
(Mathematics, Science & English Grammar)
Classes Start from : 02.04.2025
2023-24 Result
Sainik Schools - 435
Karnataka - 167
Others States - 268
Navodaya Schools - 102
SSLC
Above 95%
(143 Students)
Basavaraj Koulagi
Founder Chairman
Separate Hostel Facility Available For Boys & Girls

BBMP settles 19-year-dispute over Public Utility Building rent

Tenants agree to revised rental rates after years of dispute even as Palike has made it clear that defaulters risk eviction; Four shops already sealed

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The BBMP has revised the rent for shops in the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Public Utility Building (PUB) on MG Road, resolving a 19-year dispute between the civic body and tenants. One of Bengaluru's tallest buildings, PUB has 24 floors, with 88 shops on the ground, basement, and first floors, while four floors are occupied by Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation Limited (KSIC), Karnataka state pollution control board (KSPCB), and NCC offices. The remaining floors house BBMP offices.

A BBMP official stated that for the past 50 years, several floors of PUB and the Tower Block have been leased on a rental and contract basis, with rents significantly lower than private buildings on MG Road. In 2006, BBMP decided to revise the rent, setting ₹30 per sq. ft. for ground-floor shops and ₹20 per sq. ft. for basement and first-floor shops, with a 15% annual increase from April 1, 2006. Later, the Appeal Standing Committee revised this, doubling the rent from October 1, 2011, with a 25% increase every three years. The committee also decided that license fees and rent would be finalized only after the building was renovated and infrastructure upgraded. However, BBMP later sought government intervention to cancel this decision, leading to the government nullifying the committee's resolution. The BBMP Council then ruled that the revised rent would be collected retroactively from April 1, 2006.

Public Utility Building has 24 floors, with 88 shops on the ground, basement, and first floors

Action against rent defaulters

BBMP officials stated that tenants who fail to pay the revised rent will face penalties and eviction. Zonal commissioners have been instructed to seal and reclaim shops with outstanding dues. Additionally, legal disputes over rent in the City Civil Court and High Court will be consolidated and resolved through the Lok Adalat.

Lease agreement extended for 3 years

"As per Section 20 of the BBMP Act, an official Gazette Notification permits a one-time lease extension for three years. BBMP will execute lease agreements accordingly, with a condition that tenders be floated before expiry under the Karnataka Transparency In Public Procurements Act to determine future leases. Tenants had challenged the rent revision in multiple courts, resulting in conflicting judgments. On March 7, 2024, the East Zone Joint Commissioner held discussions with the PUB Traders' Association and shop owners. During the meeting, tenants acknowledged paying ₹64-₹75 per sq. ft. in private buildings nearby. After deliberations, they agreed to the revised rent, effective from January 1, 2014, at ₹30 per sq. ft. for the ground floor and ₹20 per sq. ft. for the basement and first floor, with a 7% annual increase", said an official.

Tenants agree to revised rent

A final meeting was held on July 9, 2024, chaired by the Special Commissioner (Revenue & Market) along with representatives of the PUB Traders' Association. During the discussions, tenants agreed to pay revised rents effective from January 1, 2014, at ₹30 per sq. ft. for ground-floor shops and ₹20 per sq. ft. for basement and first-floor shops. As of 2024, the adjusted rent stands at ₹59 per sq. ft. for the ground floor and ₹39 per sq. ft. for the basement and first floor. Out of 88 tenants, 50 have consented to the revised rates, while 31 are yet to submit approval letters. The BBMP has already sealed four shops due to non-payment. A BBMP official stated that the revision aims to resolve long-standing disputes, increase revenue, and establish fair rental policies in one of the city's prime commercial spaces.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Sewage overflow

Sivananda Circle

Sewage water has been overflowing for two months, affecting both businesses and the public.

Drain blockage

Devarachikkanahalli

Blocked box drainage on Stone Park Road, BTM Layout 4th Stage, is causing severe water stagnation due to improper construction.

'Only solution is for more people to come and donate blood'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that person got my contact number. He called me and volunteered to donate blood along with his friend as my wife needed two units of blood. He demanded money towards conveyance. I told him that I can pick and drop him and his friend as I own a car. He wanted me to send money. He disconnected the phone when I told him that I will pay money after he donated blood," said John Paul.

It is said that Ashwath Narayana L, a resident of KR Puram, lost Rs 1,700 on February 24. "We put up appeals for voluntary blood donors on social media since patients need blood urgently. Fraudsters have access to social media and it is easy to target the patients who need blood. Generally, voluntary blood donors do not demand conveyance. The public have to be cautious with fraudsters. The patients need to contact recognised voluntary blood donation groups and no money should be paid," said Arun Menon, a voluntary blood donor from Kalkere.

Alphonse Kurian, Chairman of Blood Donation Committee, Lions Club of Bengaluru, Sanjaynagar, said fraudsters are exploiting patients as there is a demand for blood donation. "The solution to this menace is that more and more people come forward to donate blood. The problem is the number of voluntary blood donors is decreasing day by day. I appeal to the public to donate blood to save lives," he said.

Even the unclaimed must rest in peace

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

we couldn't find anyone. So, we performed the last rites and buried him," said Mahesh, a constable from the Madanayakanahalli police station who along with the ambulance team and pourakarmikas, conducted the final rituals last Friday.

According to Mahesh, the with the last rites. Police officials told BM that most of such deceased persons are beggars. Some are elderly individuals abandoned by their families due to incurable diseases or financial struggles.

Recalling one such case, Mahesh shared, "A man suffering from a rare disease was abandoned on the roadside. Our police staff, along with some others, took him to an ashram, where he received treatment for nearly 20 days. Unfortunately, he did not survive," he said. Despite their efforts to inform the deceased's family, no one came forward, forcing the police to perform the burial. "We do our best, but even when families are aware, some choose not to come," he added.

The police face significant challenges in handling such cases. Many of the individuals they find are extremely weak, unable to communicate, or have no one to claim them as family. This makes their identification and assistance even more difficult. In such cases, as per procedure the police waits for seven days and if no one shows up or claims the body, they perform the burial.

Recent statistics

According to data from 2021, Karnataka reported a total of 1,791 unidentified corpses, with 16% (approximately 282 bodies) found in the Bengaluru Urban and Rural districts. In the first three months of 2022, 527 unidentified bodies were discovered statewide, with 199 in March alone. Of these, 48 were from Bengaluru Urban and Rural districts, these figures indicate a persistent issue of unclaimed bodies in the state.

The Karnataka Anatomy Act, 1957, mandates that all officers and servants of the police, medical, and public health departments, as well as local authorities, are responsible for assisting in obtaining possession of unclaimed bodies. These bodies are then either handed over to medical institutions for educational purposes or given a proper burial if unclaimed after a certain period.

B'luru basks in 33 Degree C, but heat is on in K'taka

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Met dept issues heatwave warning for 3 districts in state; advises precautions in the daytime

Bengaluru's temperature is expected to remain around 33°C, but the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a heatwave warning for the next three days in three districts in Karnataka. Udupi, Uttara Kannada, and Dakshina Kannada districts will be facing the heat due to high relative humidity (40-50%) and maximum air temperatures ranging between 37-39°C in Coastal Karnataka. The perceived temperature for the human body is estimated to be 40-50°C, increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses.

The IMD has warned that prolonged exposure to the sun or engaging in heavy outdoor work during peak hours could lead to serious health concerns, particularly for vulnerable groups such as infants, the elderly, and people with chronic illnesses.

Advisory

Authorities have advised people to take necessary precautions, including avoiding direct sunlight between 12 pm and 3 pm, drinking ample water, wearing light-coloured, loose cotton clothing, and covering the head with a hat, cloth, or umbrella. Additionally, pet and livestock owners have been urged to provide sufficient water and shade to prevent dehydration in animals. To stay hydrated, people are encouraged to consume ORS, buttermilk, lemon water, and other homemade drinks like lassi and rice water.

IMD Scientist N Puviarasan has stated that light to moderate easterly winds are prevailing over Karnataka, leading to continued dry weather across the state, with mist likely to occur in isolated places over South Interior Karnataka.'

In Bengaluru, the weather is expected to remain clear, with mist likely in some areas during the early morning hours. The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be around 33°C and 18°C, respectively. Meanwhile, an update from Namma Karnataka Weather on social media platform X indicated that a weather disturbance has been detected in the Southeast Bay of Bengal (SE BOB) and the adjoining Indian Ocean.

BM WoW WEDNESDAY
Your Chance to WIN today
Answer this question and fill the details below to win passes to a live concert by the band Thaikkudam Bridge on February 28 at Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield
Which Hindustani classical vocalist performed with Thaikkudam Bridge on the song Jeele Jeebhar?
Name:
Age:
Area:
Profession:
Which aspects of the city does BM cover the best?
THAIKKUDAM BRIDGE
Scan this code to follow us on Insta and drop your responses there or whatsapp us at
9591233247
(* Terms and Conditions apply)

Too green to be true? Fried peas may be in a soup

The government is considering a ban on fried green peas following suspicions that artificial colouring agents are being used in their preparation. Having already banned chemically treated colours used in Gobi Manchurian, kebabs, and bombay sweets, the state government is now focusing on fried green peas.

As part of its investigation, the Food Safety and Drug Administration has started collecting samples from across the state for analysis. Concerns over artificially colored fried green peas have intensified after a viral video surfaced on social media, raising alarms among consumers.

Taking the issue seriously, the state government has directed food safety officials to collect and analyse samples from various locations. The Food Safety and Quality Department has instructed all district-designated officers to collect five samples each from their respective areas.

With 30 designated officers across the state, a total of around 180 samples are expected to be gathered. So far, 70 samples, including 12 from Bengaluru, have been collected, according to department officials.

An official said, "The sample collection drive is targeting retail shops, condiment stores, and street vendors to ensure a comprehensive assessment. The collected samples are being sent to state and divisional-level government food laboratories for testing."

SC bars K'taka police from taking coercive steps against shuttler Lakshya Sen

The Supreme Court on Tuesday barred Karnataka Police from taking any coercive steps against badminton player Lakshya Sen, his family members, and coach over allegations of forging birth certificates.

A bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and K Vinod Chandran issued notice to the Karnataka government and the complainant M G Nagaraj who alleged birth certificates of Sen and his brother Chirag Sen were forged.

The top court was hearing a plea challenging the February 19 order of the Karnataka High Court which rejected the petitions filed by Sen, his family members, and his coach U Vimal Kumar.

The high court ruled there was prima facie evidence warranting an investigation into the case.

The case stems from a private complaint filed by Nagaraj, who alleged Sen's parents Dhirendra and Nirmala Sen, along with his brother, coach, and an employee of the Karnataka Badminton Association, were involved in falsifying the birth records. According to the complaint, the accused allegedly manipulated the birth certificates of the Sen brothers, reducing their age by approximately two-and-a-half years. The alleged forgery was intended to allow them to participate in age-restricted badminton tournaments and avail government benefits. However, the petitioners moved the Karnataka High Court in 2022, securing an interim order that stalled the investigation. **PTI**

Centre mum on substandard drugs matter

The Union Government has remained unresponsive to a letter from the Karnataka government regarding the issue of substandard drugs, despite concerns that such medicines could pose serious health risks, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao told the media. The minister emphasised that the quality of medicines should be a national-level discussion.

He revealed that tests conducted in the state laboratory confirmed that some pharmaceutical companies were producing substandard drugs. The state's intention in sending the letter was to alert other states about the issue. "While some companies maintain quality standards, others fail to do so, and such substandard drugs have been banned. The West Bengal-based company responsible for producing the contaminated solution linked to infant deaths has been shut down," he added.

Free bus travel for II PU & SSLC students

To support students appearing for the II PUC and SSLC annual exams, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has announced free travel for students commuting to their examination centres.

This facility will be available on city, suburban, ordinary, and express buses during the exam periods. Students can travel free of cost from their residences to their allotted examination centers by simply producing their Examination Admission Ticket.

The free travel facility will be applicable for II PUC students from March 1, 2025, to May 20, 2025, and for SSLC students from March 21, 2025, to April 4, 2025. KSRTC has urged students to make use of this initiative to ensure a smooth and hassle-free commute during their exams, said a release.

ECI's two-day conference for all states

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has scheduled a two-day conference with the Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all States and Union Territories on March 4 and 5, at the India International Institute of Democracy & Election Management, New Delhi.

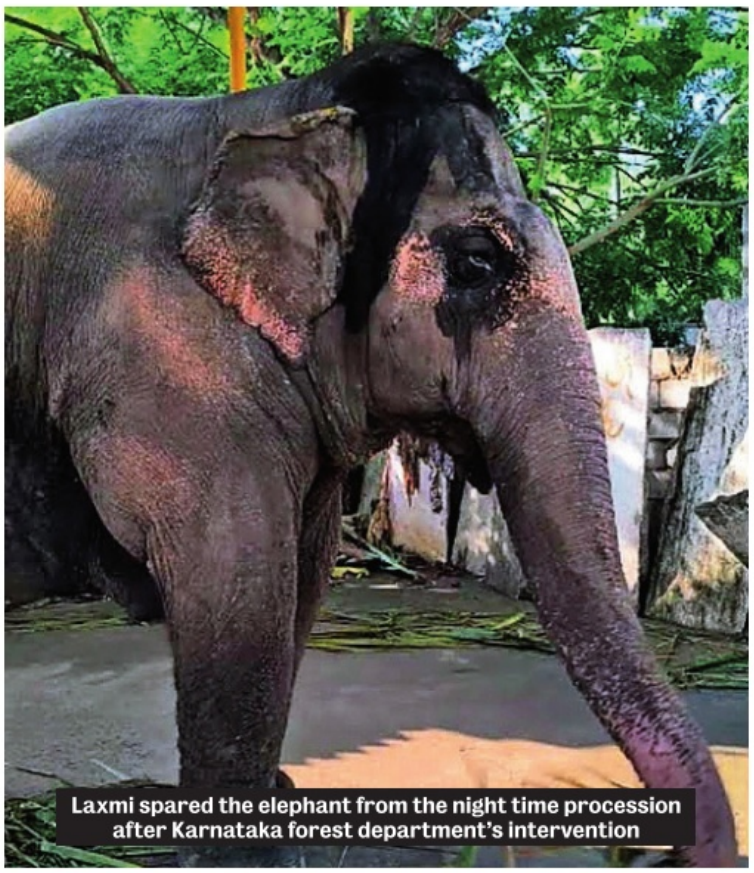
This will be the first such conference since Gyanesh Kumar took charge as the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC). For the first time, District Election Officers (DEOs) and Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) have been invited to participate, recognising their critical roles at the State, District, and Assembly Constituency levels. The first day will focus on modern election management, and the statutory responsibilities of election officials. On the second day, CEOs from different States and UTs will present their respective action plans based on the thematic discussions from the previous day.

Forest department tucks elephants in for the night

Animal activists praise Karnataka's decision: 'Bright lights, loud noises, crowded streets can cause distress'

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Here is good news for animal lovers concerned about the fate of hapless elephants used in religious functions at night. For years, some religious organisations have included elephants in processions during festivals and special occasions without considering the well-being of these majestic creatures. Now, that practice is coming to an end. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has issued an order cancelling permission granted to a religious organisation in Kolar to use an elephant, (Laxmi), in a night procession on Monday.



Laxmi spared the elephant from the night time procession after Karnataka forest department's intervention

> **"Elephants used in processions are separated from their families & condemned to a lifetime of confinement and abuse** – Khushboo G, PETA

"I cancelled the permission to use the elephant in the procession at night. No organisation will be allowed to use elephants in processions at night in the future," said Subhash K Malkhede, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. Deputy Conservator of Forests Sareena confirmed the cancellation, stating, "Our higher authorities have cancelled the permission. We are against the use of elephants in religious or cultural processions at night."

Echoing similar concerns, Dr Prayag HS, Chief Veterinary Officer, highlighted the risks involved in using elephants for night processions. "Bright lights, loud noises, and crowded streets can cause distress, making elephants behave unpredictably and leading to accidents. Religious organisations must prioritise animal welfare by keeping them out of such high-stress environments," he said. Arun Prasad, an animal activist, commended the decision, of using elephants in religious procession, while Khushboo Gupta, Director of Advocacy Projects, People For the Ethical Treatment of Animals at PETA India, praised the Karnataka Forest Department for prioritising elephant welfare and public safety.

"No live elephants are needed at all for religious processions," she said, pointing out that in November 2024, PETA India and Bangalore-based NGO Compassion Unlimited Plus Action (CUPA) helped Kolar's Shree Madh Nagalapura Veera Simhasana Matha adopt a first-of-its-kind mechanical elephant for its procession.

"PETA India openly offers mechanical elephants to any Karnataka temple or mosque that wishes to conduct processions without using real elephants. The Karnataka Department of Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments approved the use of mechanical elephants in temples in July 2024," Gupta added.

She emphasised that elephants are highly intelligent and social animals that, in nature they spend most of the days walking, feeding, bathing in water holes, and interacting with other elephants. "Female elephants live in close-knit family groups for life. But those used in processions are separated from their families as babies and condemned to a lifetime of confinement, boredom, loneliness, and abuse. They often develop severe stress, showing signs like repetitive swaying, rocking, head-bobbing, and even aggression toward humans."

Several temples in South India have already embraced the use of mechanical elephants. These include the Yediyur Siddhalingeshwara Swamy Temple in Tumkur, Shri Jagadguru Renukacharya Temple in Chikmagalur, and Shri Umamaheshwara Veerabhadreshwara Temple. "The arrival of mechanical elephants was celebrated with participation from Karnataka's Minister of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Minister of Energy, and local MLAs, as well as celebrities like Suniel Shetty, Samyukta Hornad, and Shilpa Shetty," Gupta noted.

Family to withdraw POCSO case against conductor

As the situation continued to be tense in the border areas of Karnataka and Maharashtra following the attack on the RTC bus conductor in Belagavi for allegedly not responding in Marathi, the family of the minor girl involved in the case on Tuesday announced that they have decided to withdraw the POCSO case.

The mother of the girl has also appealed to the people of Karnataka and Maharashtra states not to blow the incident out of proportion. The mother in the video stated, "The incident had taken place when my son and daughter went to the hospital after getting a ticket. The conductor had used bad language. We love the Kannada language and speak Marathi at home."

> **Girl's family urges people not to make the incident into a language dispute**

"We are concerned and saddened that the issue has snowballed into a crisis situation between two states and an issue of tussle over language. We apologise if we have made any mistake. Those who are involved in the assault have been jailed. The matter should end here. It was a scuffle over the ticket. We are withdrawing the case," the mother stated.

Belagavi Police Commissioner Iada Martin, reacting to the development stated in Belagavi that the Investigating Officer in the case has been changed and the case is handed over to the Assistant Commissioner of Police. "I got the video from the mother of the victim. I will ask the ACP to look into the matter, record the statement in this regard and proceed in the case further," said Martin. **– IANS**

Experts take sustainable mobility issues head-on

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Involving youth, ensuring political will, adopting a citizen-centric approach, and localising solutions were among the key recommendations put forward by experts at a panel discussion on sustainable mobility solutions for Bengaluru. The event, organised by IISc's Sustainable Transportation Lab on Tuesday, brought together mobility experts and organisations working towards urban mobility, generating a wide range of ideas for projects that focus on green urban mobility with high environmental and social impact.

The event also marked the transition of the Green Urban Mobility Innovation Living Lab (GUMILL) to the Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) IST Lab. "Bengaluru, like any other city, is expanding rapidly. We cannot address its mobility challenges with a single megaproject. Instead, we need hundreds of smaller initiatives, like GUMILL, implemented at area levels are the need of the hour. It is time for citizens to be more active on the ground. The Living Lab should encourage more youth participation in green and sustainable urban mobility initiatives," said Pawan Mulikuntla of WRI. Experts opined the critical role of government agencies in developing mobility solutions that are accessible, affordable, safe, and convenient for all.

"In Malleswaram, the Living Lab has taken up multiple mobility challenges such as walkability, cyclability, safety around schools, and last-mile connectivity over the past few years and has made a difference. It is equally important to involve government agencies through discussions in ward committee meetings across all wards," said Rekha Chari, president of the Malleswaram Swabhimana Initiative.

Experts also highlighted the need for a citizen-centric approach and greater coordination among organisations working on green urban mobility in Bengaluru. Suggestions included involving corporations, schools, colleges, and elected representatives in mobility initiatives to ensure broader engagement. "Elected representatives should be involved at every stage. GUMILL can also work towards ensuring political will in green mobility

GUMILL's projects in Malleswaram improved mobility, cutting traffic by 10% and boosting cycling by 11% through pedestrian-friendly initiatives

> **There is a direct connection between public health and mobility initiatives take up by Living Lab** – Prof Prabdeep K, IISc

issues. The existing knowledge base of ex-corporators can be utilised effectively," noted one participant.

"There is a direct connection between public health and the mobility initiatives taken up by the Living Lab. Unless healthy choices are also easy choices, people won't adopt them. A package of interventions can be developed to ensure scalability. We need to find ways for others to replicate our work, secure political buy-in, and refine intervention strategies to make them scalable," said Professor Prabdeep Kaur from the ISAAC Center for Public Health, IISc.

GUMILL was established under the develoPPP program of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). A joint initiative of Bosch Ltd India and GIZ India, the project was commissioned in August 2021 and concluded in December 2024. It aimed to leverage private-sector innovation to tackle urban mobility challenges, with support from the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT), Government of Karnataka.

GUMILL successfully implemented transformative projects in a testbed located in Malleswaram, Bengaluru, including the Slow Street initiative, the Safe Routes to School program, and the Community Bicycle Sharing project. These efforts have significantly improved non-motorised transport infrastructure, pedestrian safety, and sustainable mobility at the community level. Notably, the Slow Streets project resulted in a 10% reduction in vehicular volume and an 11% increase in bicycle ridership, demonstrating the impact of traffic-calming measures and pedestrian-friendly urban design.

Pick our brains

Reliance woos companies to become IPL advertisers with 'brain mapping' research

After striking an $8.5-billion media merger with Walt Disney, Indian billionaire Mukesh Ambani is targeting small businesses and promoting unconventional neuroscience studies to boost its revenues from the IPL, the world's most valuable cricket league.

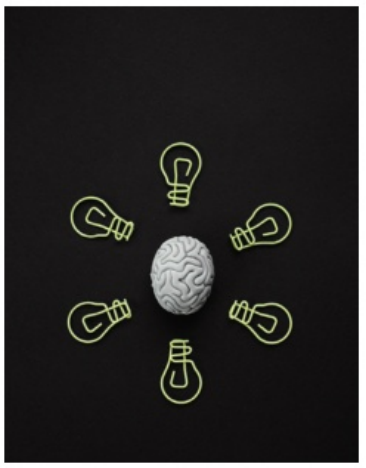
The pricey broadcast rights for the Indian Premier League (IPL) and other cricketing events which cost Disney and Reliance nearly $10 billion in recent years, are set to weigh big on the merged group, which is India's biggest entertainment giant.

Battling competitors Netflix and Amazon in the $28-billion market, the Reliance-owned venture is holding a month of closed-door seminars in seven Indian cities to woo small companies to become IPL advertisers, offering ad packages worth $17,000.

"Ads are integral to IPL coverage," the company said in one document that set its streaming service a target of reaching 40 million smart TVs and 420 million mobile devices during the IPL, set to run for 60 days from March 22.

The document shows Reliance is privately pitching advertising agencies with "brain mapping" research that it says analysed the brain cells, or neurons, of participants to show its streaming ads have a higher engagement rate than Google.

Five media executives and Reliance sources, and two company pitch decks, revealed its focus on adding small advertisers as it beefs up digital ad inventory to increase streaming revenues, in strategies Reuters is the first to reveal.



"You have to make money," said one company executive familiar with the thinking behind the effort.

All the sources spoke on condition of anonymity as the strategies are confidential.

Reliance's Star India, which runs its broadcast and streaming business, and Disney did not respond to requests for comment.

Reliance also plans to monetise tiny scorecard space on mobile screens, after having decided this month to end free streaming of IPL on its JioHotstar app, offered since 2023, in the first major sign it is battling revenue pressures.

Digital is the new media battleground in India, where TV channel pricing is strictly regulated and geolocation of ads is not possible on the traditional broadcast medium.

Amid fierce rivalry with Google and Meta, which dominate India's digital advertising space, Reliance plans to exploit user data to offer ads targeted on the basis of such aspects as a viewers' ages, incomes and locations, while upping ad rates.

Many small businesses and company executives attended Reliance's February seminar in Bengaluru to be pitched one-on-one with IPL ads described as being more affordable than ever.

A Reliance ad rates booklet showed packages started at $17,000, but wellness startup owner Anita Devraj, who attended the seminar, said, "I find it cheaper to advertise on Instagram and YouTube."

Tracking neurons

Reliance's growing focus on challenging U.S. streaming tech is evidenced by pitch deck pictures of people wearing headsets and heart rate monitors to track neurons for a "brain-mapping study" comparing how engaging its IPL ads were against rivals.

It said the results showed the "focus", "engagement" and "memorability" of the ads were up to four times greater than Meta's Instagram and Google's YouTube. The two firms did not reply to requests for comment on the Reliance assertions.

"No platform has more engaged viewers than YouTube," Google's own "brain-imaging study", with participants from Britain and Germany, concluded last year. **Reuters**

AROUNDTHEWORLD

A cliff or a puppy?

When Shanghai-based designer Guo Qingshan posted a vacation photo on Valentine's Day and captioned it "Puppy Mountain", it became a sensation in China and even created a tourist destination.

Guo had gone on a hike while visiting his hometown of Yichang in central China's Hubei province in late January. When reviewing the photos, he saw something he hadn't noticed before: A mountain shaped like a dog's head rested on the ground next to the Yangtze River, its snout perched at the water's edge.

"It was so magical and cute. I was so excited and happy when I discovered it," Guo said.

"The puppy's posture is like it's drinking water, or it's looking at some fish. It also looks like it's quietly protecting the Yangtze River," he said. **AP**

Pope at work from hospital

Pope Francis, who is in critical condition with double pneumonia, is alert and has met Vatican officials in hospital to discuss work issues, the Vatican said on Tuesday.

The 88-year-old pope was spending his 12th day at Rome's Gemelli hospital, the longest hospital stay of his nearly 12-year-old papacy.

"The pope rested well all night," the Vatican said. A Vatican official, who did not wish to be named because he was not authorised to discuss the pope's condition, said Francis was eating normally, moving about his hospital room, and continuing his treatment.

The Vatican said Francis had met his second-in-line, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, and Parolin's deputy on Monday. **Reuters**

In Russia's benefit to end war

US President Donald Trump said it is to Russia's "benefit" to make a deal and end the war against Ukraine and he thinks President Vladimir Putin does want to make a deal. Addressing a joint news conference with him, France's Emmanuel Macron stressed the importance of security guarantees in any negotiated agreement to end the war.

The two leaders met at the White House on the third anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022. Earlier in the day, the United States broke with its European allies to vote against a resolution at the UN General Assembly condemning Russia as the aggressor.

"It's very much to Russia's benefit to make a deal, and I feel that we'll do that," President Trump said at the joint news conference, responding to a question about whether he trusted President Vladimir Putin. **IANS**

Crypto crash

Terrible Tuesday

Cryptocurrencies bitcoin and ether dropped to multi-month lows on Tuesday

Bitcoin, the world's largest cryptocurrency by market value, dropped as much as **6%** to **$88,245**

This is its lowest since NOVEMBER

The first time it has fallen below **$90,000** since the middle of January.

No 2. cryptocurrency ether shed **11%** at one point to **$2,333**, its lowest since October

Reasons

U.S. tariffs and results from Nvidia

Investors have been pulling money out of bitcoin-backed exchange-traded funds. LSEG data shows the largest ETFs are set for a net monthly outflow of around **$644** million, the largest since their launch back in January 2024

... And a heist to top it all

Bybit announced last week that hackers had stolen digital tokens worth around **$1.5** billion

Bybit CEO Ben Zhou said the crypto was taken from a "cold wallet". Bybit is the world's second-largest exchange behind Binance

What is a cold wallet: A digital wallet usually stored offline and so supposedly more secure - that was used for ether tokens.

Largest known theft: Blockchain research firm Elliptic said the hack was more than double the last-biggest crypto heist and "is almost certainly the single largest known theft of any kind in all time."

—(Text from Reuters)

CLOSERHOME

1984 riots: Sajjan Kumar sentenced for life

A Delhi court on Tuesday awarded life sentence to former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar in connection with the killing of a father-son duo in the Saraswati Vihar area on November 1, 1984, during the anti-Sikh riots.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja pronounced its decision on the quantum of the sentence after it had convicted Sajjan Kumar of murder charges on February 18.

This case is related to the killing of Jaswant Singh and his son Tarundeep Singh in the Saraswati Vihar area during the riots.

Earlier on January 31, the Rouse

Avenue Court reserved its verdict after hearing additional submissions advanced by Public Prosecutor Manish Rawat.

On the other hand, Advocate Anil Sharma had submitted that Sajjan Kumar's name was not there from the very beginning and there was a delay of 16 years in naming him as an accused by the witness.

It was also submitted that a case in which Sajjan Kumar was convicted by the Delhi HC is pending appeal before the Supreme Court.

Ready for another language war: Stalin

Amid the ongoing Hindi imposition row, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Tuesday said the state was "ready" for "another language war."

Addressing reporters after chairing a Cabinet meet at the Secretariat here, the CM also said it has been decided to convene an all-party meet on March 5 to discuss the Lok Sabha delimitation issue.

Tamil Nadu was facing the 'threat' of losing 8 seats as the state has implemented the family planning programme that led to population control, he said.

Parties registered with the Election Commission would be invited for the all-party meeting, he said and appealed for unity, overcoming political differences. Asked if the meeting will discuss the three-language policy, Stalin said that to raise voice in the Parliament on issues like NEP, central funds and NEET, adequate number of MPs was needed. **PTI**

Yellow warning elsewhere too

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a yellow warning for a heatwave in Mumbai and nearby areas for Tuesday and Wednesday.

According to IMD Mumbai, "A yellow warning has been issued for heat wave in Mumbai and nearby areas for today and tomorrow as the highest temperatures are expected to reach up to 37-38 degrees Celsius, which is nearly 5 degrees Celsius above normal temperature for the month of February."

The IMD has also forecast a gradual rise in the minimum temperatures across Northwest India.

According to predictions, the minimum temperature is expected to increase by three to five degrees Celsius over the next four days, followed by a drop of two to three degrees Celsius.

A gradual rise in the maximum temperature of the plains in Northwest India is also expected in the next 24 hours. Temperatures are likely to increase by two degrees Celsius before falling by three to five degrees Celsius.

No significant changes are expected in the maximum temperatures over Central India and Gujarat today. However, a gradual rise of two to three degrees Celsius is anticipated thereafter. **IANS**

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I, Sohel Nasir Chowdhary R/o No 59/3 Swastik Road Shanthinagar Bengaluru - 560027 have changed my minor daughter's name from Farzeen to Farzeen Sohel Chowdhary.

I, Suvarna R/O E9/19/96B, Sri Maruthi Nilaya, CP Layout, 3rd cross, Lottegollahalli, Blr-560094 changed my name from Suvarna Nagaraju to Suvarna for all future purposes.

I, Aruna Aryasomayajula, R/a C-30, LIC Office Quarters, LIC Divisional Office, Banni mantap, Mysuru-570015 have changed my name to PERI ARUNA, affidavit dt: 22.02.2025 Notary V. Anjanappa, B.lore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sunitha Mahesh W/o Mahesh T.G., aged about 62 years, R/at No.128, Shetti halli Main Road, Sapthagiri Layout, Tumkur Dist., Karnataka State. In my Passport No. M9280494 my name mentioned as Doolehola mutt Veerabhadraiah Sunitha. After marriage my name is Sunitha Mahesh vide affidavit dt: 21.02.2025 before Advocate & Notary C.RameshNaik, Tumkur.

ಹೆಸರು ಬದಲಾವಣೆ
ಮೋಹನ ಹೆಚ್.ಎನ್ ಬಿನ್ ನರಸಿಂಹಪ್ಪ, 31 ವರ್ಷ, ಹಂಡಿಗನಾಳ ಗ್ರಾಮ, ಕಸಬಾ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಶಿಡ್ಲಘಟ್ಟ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ನಿವಾಸಯಾದ ನಾನು, ನನ್ನ ಮಗನ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಹೆಸರು ಕುಶ್ ನಿಹಾಲ್.ಎಂ (KUSH NIHAL .M) ಆದರೆ ಜನನ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ತಪ್ಪಾಗಿ ಕುಶನ್ ನಾಯಕ್ (Kushan Nayak) ಎಂದು ನಮೂದಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್ ಬಿ.ಪಿ ವಕೀಲರು ಮತ್ತು ನೋಟರಿ, ಶಿಡ್ಲಘಟ್ಟ ಇವರ ಮುಂದೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03/10/2024 ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

I, BASAVANNEVVA G HOSAMATH D/o Mr Gurulingayya, R/a No 497, Hala Peth Medar Oni, Near Ardhaneshwar Temple Ward, No 01, Kerur(Rural), Bagalkot, Karnataka 587206, have changed my name to KHUSHI G HOSAMATH, vide Affidavit dated 20/02/2025 sworn before notary Y R Chandrasekar, Bengaluru.

I Arun Kumar Shettar S/o Veerappa Shettar residing # 3196, Prestige Temple Bells, Ideal Homes Layout, RR Nagar, Bangalore - 560098 changed my name from Arun Kumar Shettar to Arun Shettar for all future purposes.

I, Neetu Pramod Kumar W/o Pramod Kumar Goutham B2005, Artisane Forest Breeze, 3rd Main, Krishnaraju Lyt, Dollars Colony, JP Nagar, B'luru 560076 have changed my name to Neetu Kanunga Affidavit Dt.25/02/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Vikram Prabhakar No-36/1,RMV extension, Sadashivanagar,B'luru 560080 have changed my minor daughter name from Siri Vikram Prabhakar to Siri Gowri Vikram for all purposes

I, Abdul Khaliq C S/o Chand Pasha R/o No. 14, 3rd Cross, 2nd Main, Byrappa Layout, Govindpura, A.C Post. Bangalore 560045. have changed my name to Abdul Khaliq for all purposes.

I, Gangamma Muniyappa R/o No.26, 5th cross, 2nd block, Akahaynagar, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru 560016 have changed my name to Ganglamma Affidavit Dt.25/02/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

AMRIN taj w/o zameer shariff R/o 116/1 2nd B main road New extension Madiwala bangalore 560068 have changed my name to Amreen taj

I, Harish Rao P S, R/o #216/1-1 1st Floor, Balaji Road 2nd Block Thyagarajanagar BSK 2nd stage B'luru-560070 have changed my Minor Daughter's Name From Poorvi to Poorvi H Rao vide Affidavit Dt: 25/02/2025 before Notary B S Padmaprasad, B'luru.

I, Sasi Rekha Rangasamy W/o Rangasamy Kadaganur Lakshmipathy R/o No 6/1,3rd Floor Shivan Chetty Garden Bharathi Nagar B'luru-560042 have changed my name to Sashi Rekha Kumaravelu.

I Sameena Firodose Jahan W/O, Mohammed Amanulla Khan Ansari R/o No 63/1 Motinagar Nr Road 2nd Cross Near Mmes School Bangalore 560 002 have changed my name to Sameena Firdous.

I Aishwarya Venkata W/O, Harsha M R/o #7, 5th Main Road Vijayashree Nivas Mk Nagar Yeshwanthpur Bangalore 560022 have changed my name to Aishwarya Tumkur Venkata.

I, Preethi S, w/o Manoje Venkataraman have changed my name to M Preethi vide affidavit dtd 21-02-2025 bfr notary H G Padmanabha Rao, Bangalore

LOST & FOUND

I, Rajeev Ramnarain Rastogi, have lost my Bachelor of Technology degree in Computer Science and Engineering conferred on me by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay on July 27, 1988.

Document Lost
I, Ramachandrappa S/o Kempanna, residing at Angarekanahalli, Maralakunte Post, Chikkaballapur Taluk and District-562101, stating that, I have lost (on 22.02.2025) the sale deed of my property. I have filed a complaint (L.R No.1493686/2025) to Chikkaballapur Police in this regard on 24.02.2025. If anyone finds the said document, please contact the above address or mobile No.9901982231.

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Mob: 9844284240 Ph: 08042540300
Website : www.rvim.edu.in

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Artisans Bazaar
There is a memory in every single piece of art.
Date : 25th February to 2nd March 2025
Timings: 10.30 AM to 7 PM
6 Days Exhibition / Entry Free
Arts, Crafts & Handlooms Exhibition
100+ Shopping Stalls | 50+ Craftsman & More
Entry Free!
Organized By
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For Details Contact
9036658774 / 6364685716
Venue:
Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath,
Kumara Krupa Road, Near Shivananda Circle
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HEALTH TIP: Selenium is a vital trace element found in living organisms, soil and plants, and your body needs only a small amount of it to function

Eating selenium-rich foods – such as Brazil nuts, seafood, whole grains and eggs – can help sustain optimal nutrient levels

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All you need to know about...

Multitasking memory

Juggling tasks
Working memory, which allows one to juggle multiple tasks at the same time, may have its limits, according to a new study published in the journal eLife.

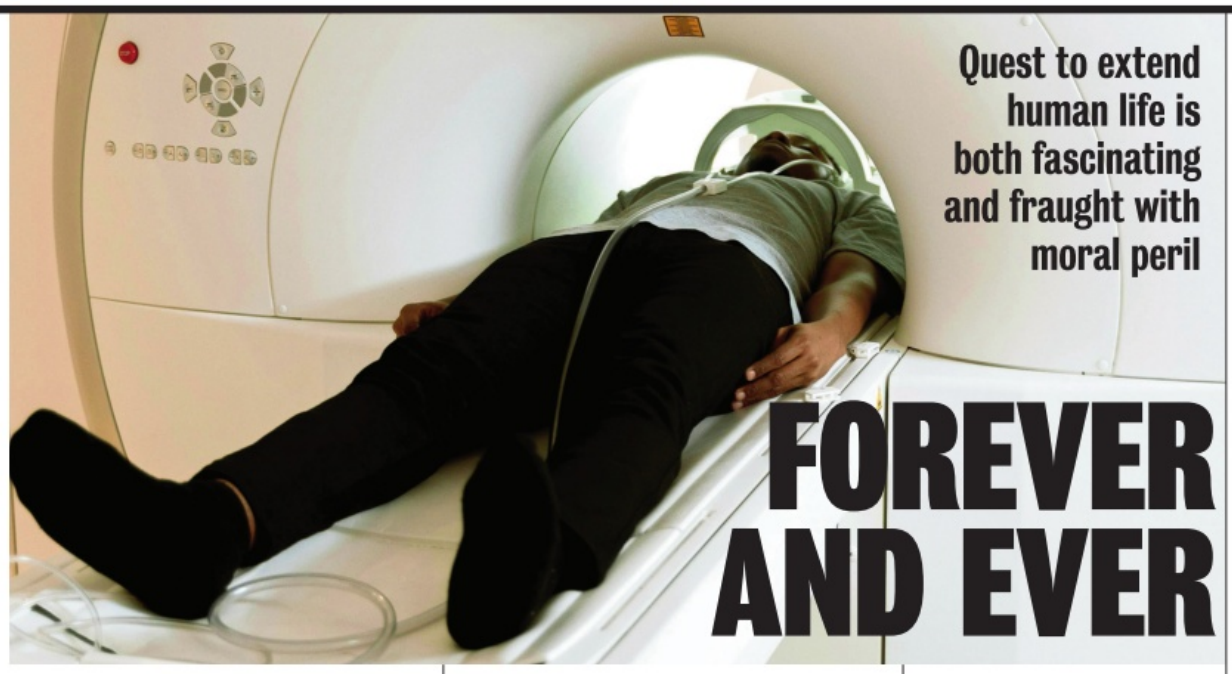
Chunking
A learning process involving 'chunking' or grouping related pieces of information, rather than capacity, is the real driver of working memory, according to co-author of the study, Aneri Soni, a graduate student at Brown University, US.

Limited supply
The capacity of one's working memory -- how many tasks can be performed simultaneously -- is considered to be limited. However, there are competing theories as to why or how this might be true, the researchers said.

Study
In this study, the team ran trials of everyday human tasks on a computer model of the basal ganglia and the thalamus -- brain regions relevant to the functioning of working memory. The model was shown multiple coloured blocks oriented in different directions and asked to recall which colored block was pointing in which direction. Over multiple trials, the model learned how to strategically compress information and began chunking together similar colors, such as blue and light blue.

Dopamine effect
"The simulations we ran show that if we held more than just a few items at a time, it becomes too difficult to learn how to manage so many pieces of information at once, such that the brain gets confused and can't use the information it does store," Soni said.
Further, critical to learning is the brain chemical 'dopamine', which plays a role in producing motivation to learn and in consolidating newly learned information as memory.

—PTI



Quest to extend human life is both fascinating and fraught with moral peril

FOREVER AND EVER

Who wants to live forever?" Freddie Mercury mournfully asks in Queen's 1986 song of the same name.

The answer: Quite a few people – so much so that life extension has long been a cottage industry.

As a physician and scholar in the medical humanities, I've found the quest to expand the human lifespan both fascinating and fraught with moral peril.

During the 1970s and 80s, for example, The Merv Griffin Show featured one guest 32 times – life extension expert Durk Pearson, who generated more fan mail than any guest except Elizabeth Taylor. In 1982, he and his partner, Sandy Shaw, published the book "Life Extension: A Practical Scientific Approach," which became a No. 1 New York Times bestseller and sold over 2 million copies. One specific recommendation involved taking choline and vitamin B5 in order to reduce cognitive decline, combat high blood pressure and reduce the buildup of toxic metabolic byproducts.

Last year, Pearson died at 82, and Shaw died in 2022 at 79.

No one can say for sure whether these life extension experts died sooner or later than they would have had they eschewed many of these supplements and instead simply exercised and ate a balanced diet. But I can say that they did not live much longer than many similarly well-off people in their cohort.

Still, their dream of staying forever young is alive and well.

Consider tech entrepreneur Bryan Johnson's "Project Blueprint," a life-extension effort that inspired the 2025 Netflix documentary "Don't Die: The Man Who Wants to Live Forever." His program has included building a home laboratory, taking more than 100 pills each day and undergoing blood plasma transfusions, at least one of which came from his son.

And Johnson is not alone. Among the big names investing big bucks to prolong their lives are Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, Google founders Sergei Brin and Larry Page, and Oracle's Larry Ellison. One approach involves taking senolytics – drugs that target cells that may drive the aging process, though more research is needed to determine their safety and efficacy. Another is human growth hormone, which has long been touted as an anti-aging mechanism in ad campaigns that feature remarkably fit older people. ("How does this 69-year-old doctor have the body of a 30-year-old?" reads one web ad).

These billionaires may reason that, because of their wealth, they have more to live for than ordinary folks. They may also share more prosaic motivations, such as a fear of growing old and dying.

But underlying such desires is an equally important ethical – and, for some, spiritual – reality.

Quality versus quantity

Is it a good thing, morally speaking, to wish to live forever? Might there be aspects of aging and even death that are both good for the world and good for individuals?

Cicero's "On Aging" offers some insights. In fact, the ancient Roman statesman and philosopher noted that writing about it helped him to find peace with the vexations of growing old.

In the text, Cicero outlines and responds to four common complaints about aging: It takes us away from managing our affairs, impairs bodily vigor, deprives us of sensual gratifications and brings us to the verge of death.

To the charge that aging takes us away from managing our affairs, Cicero asks us to imagine a ship. Only the young climb the masts, run to and fro on the gangways, and bail the hold. But it is among the older and more experienced members of the crew that we find the captain who commands the ship. Rome's supreme council was called the Senate, from the Latin for "elder," and it is to those rich in years that we look most often for wisdom.

As to whether aging impairs bodily vigor, Cicero claimed that strength and speed are less related to age than discipline. Many older people who take care of themselves are in better shape than the young, and he gives examples of people who maintained their vigor well into their later years. He argued that those who remain physically fit do a great deal to sustain their mental powers, a notion supported by modern science.

Cicero reminds readers that these same pleasures of eating and drinking often lead people astray. Instead, people, as they age, can better appreciate the pleasures of mind and character. A great dinner becomes characterized less by what's on the plate or the attractiveness of a dining partner than the quality of conversation and fellowship.

While death remains an inevitable consequence of aging, Cicero distinguishes between quality and quantity of life. He writes that it is better to live well than to live long, and for those who are living well, death appears as natural as birth. Those who want to live forever have forgotten their place in the cosmos, which does not revolve around any single person or even species.

Those of a more spiritual bent might find themselves drawn to the Scottish poet George MacDonald, who wrote: "Age is not all decay; it is the ripening, the swelling of the fresh life within, that withers and bursts the husk."

Embracing the circle of life

What if the dreams of the life extension gurus were realized? Would the world be a better place?

Would the extra good that a longer-lived Einstein could have accomplished be balanced or even exceeded by the harm of a Stalin who remained healthy and vigorous for decades beyond his death?

At some point, preserving indefinitely the lives of those now living would mean less room for those who do not yet exist.

Pearson and Shaw appeared on many other television programs in the 1970s and 1980s. During one such segment on "The Mike Douglas Show," Pearson declared: "By the time you are 60, your immune function is perhaps one-fifth what it was when you were younger. Yet you can achieve a remarkable restoration simply by taking nutrients that you can get at a pharmacy or health food store."

For Pearson, life extension was a biomedical challenge, an effort more centered on engineering the self rather than the world.

Yet I would argue that the real challenge in human life is not to live longer, but to help others; adding extra years should be seen not as the goal but a byproduct of the pursuit of goodness.

In the words of Susan B. Anthony: "The older I get, the greater power I seem to have to help the world; I am like a snowball – the further I am rolled, the more I gain."

-- Richard Gunderman, Indiana University, The Conversation

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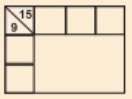
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

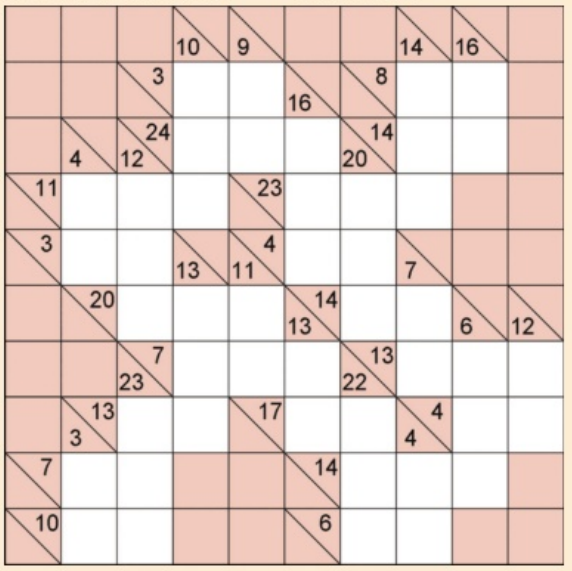
John is standing in a prime numbered position in a line with 28 other people. There is a total of 5 prime numbered positions in front of him and a total of 4 prime numbered positions behind him. What is John's position in line?

Kakuro

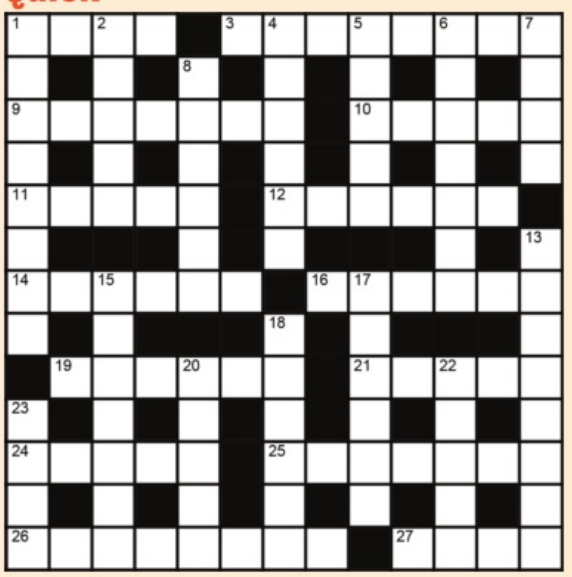
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Renown (4)
3 Supervises, regulates or manages (8)
9 Publishing (7)
10 Dens (5)
11 Become liable to (5)
12 Moved forwards and backwards (6)
14 Piqued, irritated or irked (6)
16 India's cricket trophy (6)
19 Respiration disorder (6)
21 Violin make (5)
24 Juice of rubber tree (5)
25 A herb (7)
26 Like a bumpkin or a lout, perhaps (8)
27 In this way (4)

DOWN

1 Faults or weaknesses (8)
2 Songs, symphonies, etc (5)
4 Former Karnatka Governor who went on to become India's President (1,1,4)
5 Ancient souvenir (5)
6 A power superstitiously attributed to certain persons (4,3)
7 Fair, not excellent but okay (2-2)
8 Penetrate or prick with a needle? (6)
13 Stone fruits (8)
15 Country, once Basutoland (7)
17 Customary treatments, practices (6)
18 Cards used in fortune-telling? (6)
20 Series or a group of six (5)
22 On a level with the water? (5)
23 Political alliance (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS O

DX JKNVI JRR SLOK FVB WXXY JRR YNJJYX.

Linemaro

I think I can die happy now, I have just seen a piece of heaven

Mindchow

The excesses of our youth are checks written against our age and they are payable with interest thirty years later

Joke of the day

Why don't skeletons fight each other? They don't have the guts!

Loop

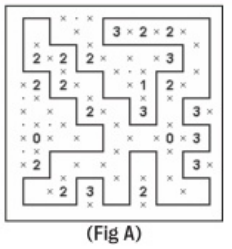
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

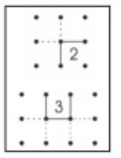
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

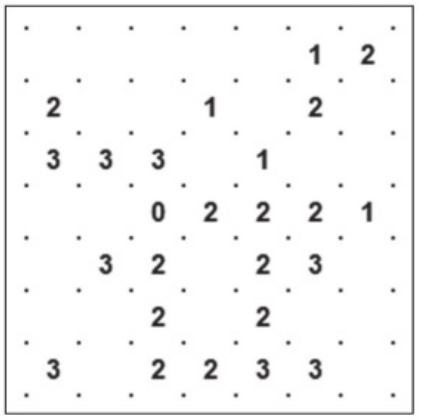
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



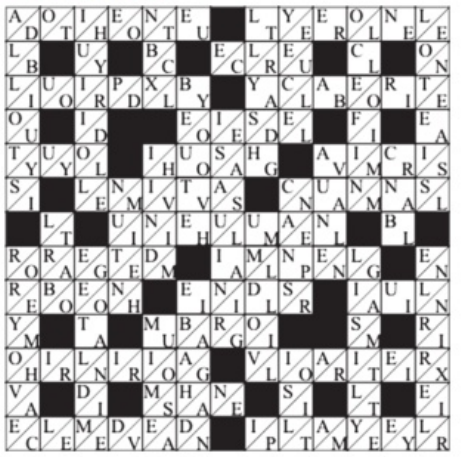
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



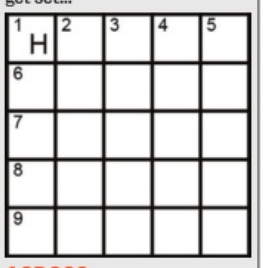
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

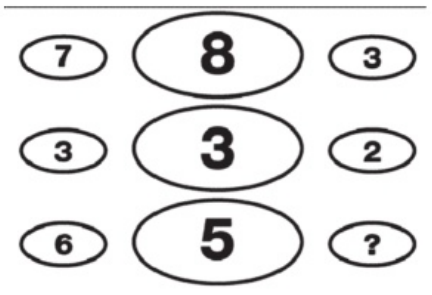
1 A hunt; 6 Nu Ale;
7 Ms Tut; 8 All II;
9 A call

DOWN

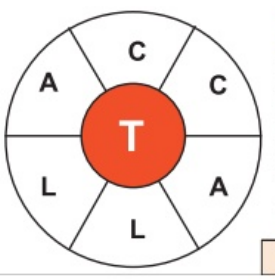
1 Chum I; 2 La Lau;
3 Unlit; 4 At LAN;
5 Least

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; 02 Good; 03 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

2		1		5				3
		9		1	6	4		
		6	9					
	6				7			
1	7		2		9		3	4
			4				2	
					2	3		
		8	5	7		1		
3				9		2		8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 18
3 3 9 9

Medium = 8
2 3 4 7

Hard = 10
2 7 9 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

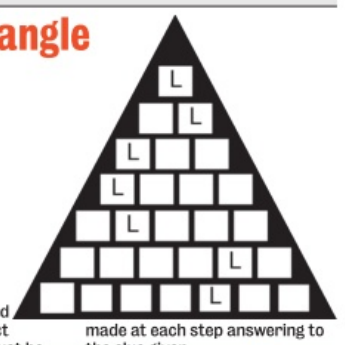
Differences: 1. Arrow is lower. 2. Hat is different. 3. Leg is moved. 4. Woman's hair is different. 5. Arm is longer. 6. Line in sidewalk is moved.

Riddler

Kevin brings his school supplies to the counter. The cashier rings up his purchase for a total of $1.70. Kevin is puzzled, and says, "I bought 2 pencils at 2 cents each, 5 pencils at 4 cents each and 8 notebooks and 12 sheets of colored paper. I don't remember the prices of the latter two, but the total can't be $1.70." How did Kevin know?

Alpha triangle

1 Learner's plate
2 Spanish article
3 Showed the way
4 Silver vein
5 More mature
6 Stated again
7 Bead of water

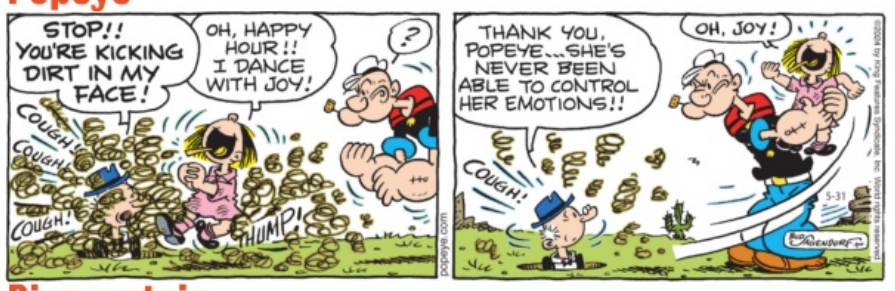


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

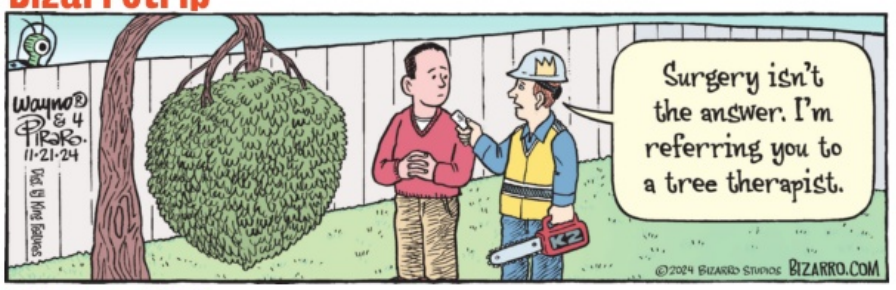
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
COME ON 'ROUND BACK! WE'RE COOKING!
THIS VACATION IS ALREADY OFF TO A GREAT START.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

SO SAY IF THERE'S A RUMOR THAT DEATHS FROM BEING IMPALED BY A SPIKE ARE ON THE RISE...
Centerville Sentinel
AND YOU INVESTIGATE THE RUMOR AND DETERMINE THAT IT'S NOT TRUE... WHAT'S YOUR HEADLINE?
SPIKE IN SPIKE DEATHS SPIKED.
WOW! YOU'RE A NATURAL!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
11-21

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Health issues may make you impatient today. Try to control your temper, as impulsive reactions could lead to unnecessary conflicts. Avoid spending on unnecessary items, as it may impact your savings. Lovebirds should avoid arguments over trivial matters to prevent misunderstandings or breakups.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
You may meet an influential person who could help advance your career or business. Your network will strengthen, and you may be inspired to implement new ideas at work. Increased investments in business could bring financial gains in the future. Family gatherings and social events will keep you occupied.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Your mother's health is improving, bringing you peace of mind. You will enjoy your work, and your hard efforts may be rewarded, boosting your social reputation. However, mental exhaustion from work could prevent you from attending a family event.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Satisfaction at work will boost your confidence. A short work-related trip may be on the cards, and you could also visit a religious place for inner peace. Guidance from mentors or spiritual teachers will provide clarity regarding your goals.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
You may feel low on energy today, and health concerns could trouble you. Avoid making investments or starting new ventures, as financial losses are possible. Your business gains may also turn into losses, so caution is advised.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
A happy and harmonious domestic life will bring you joy. You may meet an influential person who could offer career-related benefits. At work, your performance will be appreciated, and a promotion may be on the horizon. Disputes over inherited property may see resolution.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Good health will allow you to stay focused on your goals. Your performance at work will be impressive, earning appreciation from your superiors and possibly new responsibilities. A favorable legal outcome is expected, and you will successfully handle business rivals or opponents.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You will focus on gaining knowledge and understanding the importance of intellectual assets. Learning to control your temper will help you work more efficiently. Stable earnings will provide comfort, but be cautious with new investments. You may spend money on loved ones, and romantic relationships will flourish.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
A sense of dissatisfaction may trouble you today, making you feel detached from responsibilities. Avoid getting lost in impractical plans and focus on being realistic to complete tasks on time. Take care of your parents, and if considering migration, it's best to postpone plans for now.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
A positive and productive day awaits you. Your hard work will bring success in both professional and domestic matters. Strong focus will help you complete tasks efficiently, boosting your confidence. A short work-related trip may enhance your professional network.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be occupied with domestic matters, spending money on household items or décor. However, control impulsive spending, as it could invite negative energy into your home. Be mindful of your words and avoid speaking harshly to those around you.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
After a period of chaos, you will finally feel at ease. Your energy will help you make critical decisions regarding your family business, leading to growth. Helping those in need will boost your social reputation. Students will gain clarity in their career choices.

KIDZONE

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
There are 29 people in line. The first 5 prime numbers are 2, 3, 5, 7 and 11. John must be standing in the next prime numbered position which is 13. There must be 4 more prime numbered positions after 13. They would be 17, 19, 23 and 29. So John is in the 13th position

BULL'S EYE
CATCALL, taxi, taxi

QUOTE UNCODE
We think too much and feel too little.

FAST FIVE

C	A	L	L	A
H	A	U	N	T
U	L	N	A	E
M	U	T	T	S
I	L	I	A	L

STRIKE OUT

A	T	H	E	N	E	T	Y	R	O	N	E			
L	U	C	R	U	L	N								
L	O	R	D	L	Y	A	L	B	E	I	T			
O	D		O	I	S	E	F	A						
Y	U	L	H	U	S	H	V	I	C	I				
S	E	M	I	T	S	C	A	N	A	L				
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R	A	G	E	D	I	M	P	E	L	E				
E	B	O	N	E	N	D	S	A	I	L				
M	A	M	A	G	I	S		I						
O	I	L	R	I	G	V	O	R	T	E	X			
V	I	M	A	N	I	L	I							
O	L	I	V	E	R									
E	L	E	V	E	N	P	L	A	Y	E	R			

QUICK

C	L	O	D	D	I	S	H	T	H	U	S			
S														
R														
G	A	L	L	E	D		D	U	L	E	E	P		
N					C	I				Y	A			
I	N	C	U	R		R	O	C	K	E	D			
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G	A	L	L	E	D		D	U	L	E	E	P		
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C	L	O	D	D	I	S	H	T	H	U	S			

RIDDLER
Because 4 cents, 20 cents, 8 notebooks and 12 sheets of colored paper are all divisible by 4, but 170 cents isn't.

MENSA PUZZLE
1. In each row, add the left and right hand numbers together and subtract 2 to give the number in the centre of the row.

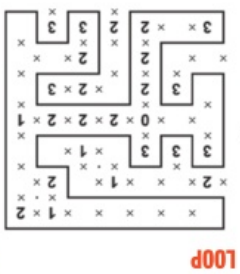
SUDOKU

2	4	1	7	5	8	9	6	3
7	8	9	3	1	6	4	5	2
5	3	6	9	2	4	8	1	7
4	6	2	1	3	7	5	8	9
1	7	5	2	8	9	6	3	4
8	9	3	4	6	5	7	2	1
6	1	7	8	4	2	3	9	5
9	2	8	5	7	3	1	4	6
3	5	4	6	9	1	2	7	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, El, led, lode, Older, Retold, Droplet.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 – 3 + 9 + 3 = 18
Medium
3 + 7 – 4 + 2 = 8
Hard
9 – 2 + 7 – 4 = 10

LOOP



KAKURO

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About Ozzy — The Prince of Darkness, Ozzy Osbourne is getting a new documentary, titled 'No Escape From Now', which will chronicle his health issues and upcoming final show with his band Black Sabbath

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Song released

The team of Nan Poli is on cloud nine after releasing a song of the movie at Dr Rajkumar Kala Bhavan on Monday. Many activists, including Chi Na Ramu, attended the song release function and wished good luck to the cast and crew of the movie.

"My friend Murthy invited me to this function. He wanted me to bless his son who plays a key role in the movie. Majority of the cast are newcomers. They have to work hard to establish themselves as actors in Sandalwood," he said.

The song - Yaare Nee Yaare - was sung by Chetan and Anjana P Rao. The movie Naa Poli is a love story. The movie features Yashwanth, Harish, Disha Shetty. Yashwant, apart from playing the lead, wrote script, screenplay and helmed the movie. Yashwanth said he decided to make short films but ended up directing a feature film. "I thank cinematographer Keerthi Vardhan for introducing the cast and crew of this movie. Keerthi Vardhan helped me a lot during the shooting. The movie revolves around two youths - one from a middle-class family and the other one is from an affluent family. The movie also emphasises the importance of mothers," he said.

One more murder mystery

The shooting of Dharma Keerthiraj-starrer Amravati Police Station, a mystery thriller, is almost complete and preparations are being made to shoot its climax scene in Goa shortly. Gururaj Jaggesh makes a comeback after a long gap in this film. Vedika is the female lead in this thriller. The teaser of the movie was unveiled at Kalavidara Sangha by Nagendra who worked as public relations officer for more than 800 Kannada movies.

The movie is directed by Puneeth Arasikere. It is about the disappearance of a village head and a police inspector who also goes missing while investigating the case at a coastal village. The movie's shooting was held for 36 days and the movie's team is set to go to Goa shortly to complete the remaining portion of the shooting.

"I play the role of an undercover cop who appears in mufti throughout the movie. The action sequences are superb and the narration of the script is gripping. I have put all my efforts during the shooting. I am confident of its success at the box office," said Keerthiraj. The director said the movie has a number of suspense elements to keep audiences hooked. "The movie is set in the backdrop of a fictional village named Amaravathi. The movie also features Naga Sadhus. We plan to release it in March or in April," the director said.

The director said the team plans to release a song on the occasion of Power Star Puneeth Rajkumar's birthday on March 17.

Starry reprise

SRK & DP set for Pathaan sequel? Here's what we know

Bollywood superstars Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone are set to join forces once again for the highly anticipated sequel to the 2023 blockbuster 'Pathaan'.

The superstar jodi, who belted out one of the biggest box office hits in the Hindi film industry, are getting ready for the next chapter in their spy action-adventure film. 'Pathaan 2', which is part of Yash Raj Films' expanding Spy Universe, is confirmed to bring back SRK as the dashing RAW agent, along with Deepika who played the role of Rubina. Buzz is that Ashutosh Rana who played the role of Colonel Sunil Luthra, might also return for round two.

We have also learned that the team is still wrapping up work on the script. It wasn't too long ago that screenwriter Abbas Tyrewala confirmed that the film's script is nearly complete and awaiting the dialogue stage.

While there have been reports suggesting the film's production schedule is already locked, we have learnt that it may not be the case just yet. Currently, Shah Rukh is busy filming 'King', where he shares screen space with his daughter, Suhana Khan. The film is slated for a mid-2026 release. Deepika, on the other hand, has been on a maternity break since welcoming daughter Dua last September.

Deepika will be only the second actress to return to the spy universe after Katrina Kaif, who played the role of Zoya in three instalments of the 'Tiger' franchise.

Meanwhile, producer Aditya Chopra is focused on expanding the YRF Spy Universe, which has already delivered hits like 'Ek Tha Tiger', 'Tiger Zinda Hai', 'War', and 'Pathaan'. The first female-led spy film 'Alpha' with Alia Bhatt in the lead, is also in production.

— ETimes

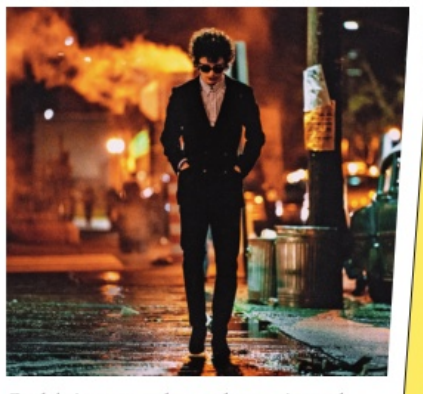
About a specific moment

Director James Mangold, whose film 'A Complete Unknown' is gearing up for its India release, has shared that the film is about a specific moment in legendary singer-songwriter Bob Dylan's life, and not his whole life.

The film has been nominated for the upcoming edition of the Oscars nominated in the Best Picture category. 'A Complete Unknown', explores Bob Dylan's rise to fame, adding to the director's list of biopics after 'Walk the Line' and 'Ford v Ferrari'.

Talking about the film, James said in a statement, "This is a story about a specific moment in a person's life, not their whole life. And it is about a world where so much is communicated with song".

This method has worked well for him before, as seen in 'Walk the Line', where he focused on Johnny Cash's journey through music and personal struggles. James is drawn to characters who challenge expectations. Bob Dylan's decision to 'go electric' at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival was a major turning point in music history.



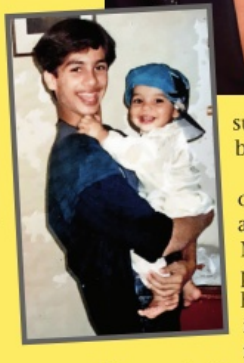
—IANS

Pretty pink
Alia Bhatt shines in a dreamy pink saree with effortless grace
Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Throwback on birthday

As actor Shahid Kapoor celebrated his 44th birthday on Tuesday his brother Ishaan Khatter penned a heartwarming birthday note and shared adorable childhood photos of the actor.

Taking to his Instagram handle, the 'Dhadak' actor took a trip down memory lane and cherished his unforgettable moments with his brother Shahid Kapoor.



In the series of childhood photos, a teenage Shahid was seen holding baby Ishaan in his arms. In another snap, the actor was seen posing with Shahid by the seaside.

Ishaan also shared a behind-the-screen photo from the sets of a film. In the picture, Shahid was seen sitting in a car while Ishaan held a clapboard in his hands.

While sharing the pictures, the actor wrote, "Not much has changed! Still stealing your clothes. Happy birthday to the supernova big bro."

On the occasion, the actor's wife, Mira Kapoor, penned a heartwarming caption for Shahid. She wrote, "Love of my life, light of my world. Happy Birthday to my forever. In the middle of everything and at the end of it all, you're the one. The magic is in you."

Meanwhile, Shahid was last seen in Deva, co-starring Pooja Hegde. In the movie, Shahid portrays a rebellious police officer who delves into a high-profile case. As he digs deeper, he unravels a web of deceit and betrayal, plunging into a perilous journey of investigation while Pooja Hegde is the leading lady.

—ANI